

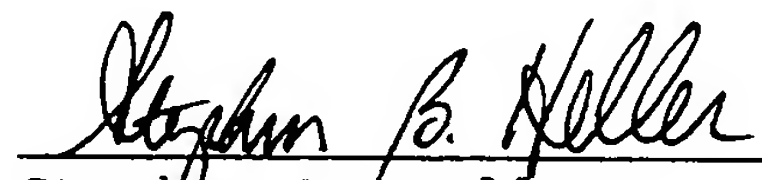
AZ  
--2 (Amended). The device of claim 1 wherein the parallel jaw members are spaced apart between approximately 1 to 15 mm when in the clamped position.

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REMARKS

This is a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified application. By this Amendment, serial numbers have been identified for related applications and claims 1 and 2 have been amended.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/032,372 filed October 26, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/844,225 filed April 27, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/747,609 filed December 22, 2000, which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/200,072, filed April 27, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

--1 (Amended). A device for clamping and ablating cardiac tissue comprising:

a first handle member;

a second handle member;

first and second mating jaw members associated with the first and second handle members, respectively, the jaw members being movable by the handle members between a first open position and a second clamped position in which the ~~spacing between the~~ jaw members ~~is~~ are substantially ~~constant~~ parallel;

a first elongated electrode extending along the first jaw member;

a second elongated electrode extending along the second jaw member;

the first and second electrodes being in face-to-face relationship and being adapted to be connected to an RF energy source so that, when activated, the first and second electrodes are of opposite polarity.--

--2 (Amended). The device of claim 1 wherein the parallel jaw members are spaced apart between approximately 1 to 15 mm when in the clamped position.--